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CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

No Atal pension scheme for tax payers from Oct 1

To ensure better targeting of pension benefits to underserved sections of society, income tax payers will not be allowed to enroll in government's social security scheme -- Atal Pension Yojana -- from October 1. The Finance Ministry, however, said tax payers who have enrolled before October 1 will continue to benefit from the scheme. Currently, all citizens in the age group of 18-40 years can join the yojana through bank or post office branches | P13

HC scraps ACB, transfers cases to Lokayukta

Says Anti-Corruption Bureau was formed to shield corrupt politicians from Lokayukta

YATHIRAJU @ Bengaluru

IN a major development that is likely to strengthen the fight against corrupt public servants, the Karnataka High Court on Thursday quashed the March 14, 2016 order of the then State government forming the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) and shifted the cases pending before the ACB to the Lokayukta.

The court while abolishing the ACB observed that the bureau had been formed as a parallel body by the political executive to shield corrupt politicians, ministers and officers from the watchful eyes of the independent quasi-judicial body, the Karnataka Lokayukta, headed by a retired judge of higher judiciary.

"If the government really intends to curb corruption, favouritism and official indiscipline, ACB should have been allowed to work under the Lokayukta, instead of the Chief Minister, as stated in the executive order. Therefore, there is more scope in the executive order for political influence and the chief minister in power can misuse the ACB to control his opponents within his party or the opposite parties. The conditions of the executive order in question clearly depicts that there is a possibility to favour the party in power or the party men," a division bench of Justice B Veerappa and Justice K S Hemalekha, observed.

CM: Will comment after discussion

Mysuru: Reacting to the High Court order, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai said he would comment only after discussing the matter with the Advocate General.

The court noted that Lokayukta had created history and was a model to the entire country by making a chief minister and a minister resign from power and had sent them to prison in 2011. It had also made a Lokayukta resign over his son's involvement in corruption. This was possible because of the Karnataka Lokayukta Act and Prevention of Corruption (PC) Act.

The court said ACB had not registered any criminal cases against the ministers, MPs, MLAs and MLCs but only registered some against the authorities. CONTINUED ON: P4

Trinamool leader Anubrata Mandal after his arrest by the CBI at Bolpur in Birbhum district on Thursday | P13

Two-day party demo

Criticising the action, Trinamool minister Chandrima Bhattacharya said the party's youth and students' wings will stage demonstrations for two days from Friday across the state

CBI arrests TMC strongman amid drama

PRONAB MONDAL @ Kolkata

TWO Central law-enforcing agencies — the CBI and the ED — on Thursday went after the Trinamool Congress, arresting its Birbhum strongman in a cattle smuggling case, and summoning eight IPS officers in connection with a coal smuggling case.

While the CBI arrested Anubrata Mondal in a dramatic raid involving 100-odd CRPF personnel from his Birbhum residence after he skipped 10 summons citing ill health, the ED asked eight IPS officers to appear at their Delhi office on staggered dates in this month.

Mondal, who began as a fish vendor and rose to become the party's district chief, was remanded in CBI custody for 10 days by an Asansol court. Outside the court, the local CPM cadre waved flags hailing the arrest, accusing Mondal of inciting violence by delivering provocative speeches.

One of his loaded one-liners in 2019 against the Opposition that questioned the lack of development in Birbhum was, "Development is standing in every road corner. If you challenge it, you will see what real development is."

In the wee hours of Thursday, CRPF personnel surrounded Mondal's house, CBI officers then went in, searched rooms and picked up Mondal. "We summoned Mondal 11 times but he turned up only once," said a CBI official. Mondal's security guard Saigal Hossain was arrested in the same case recently with the CBI finding his assets disproportionate to his known sources of income.

EXPRESS READ

Singer Shivamogga Subbanna dies at 83

Bengaluru: Noted 'sugama sangeetha' singer Shivamogga Subbanna passed away in Bengaluru on Thursday night at the age of 83. He suffered a massive heart attack when he was on his way to a private hospital | P7

Get free rides on BMTC buses on August 15

Bengaluru: To encourage people to shift to public transport, the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) on Thursday announced that it will not charge bus fares for passengers from 12 am to 12 am on August 15.

Three main accused in BJP worker's murder arrested

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Mangaluru

DAKSHINA Kannada police have finally managed to arrest the three main accused assailants of BJP Yuva Morcha leader Praveen Nettaru, a fortnight after the brutal murder took place.

The accused Shihabuddin alias Shihab, 33, Basheer, 29 (both from Sullia) and Riyaz Ankatadka, 27 from Subramanya were arrested near Talapady check-post on Karnataka-Kerala border around 8 pm on Thursday. While Shihab is a cocoa trader, Riyaz supplies chicken to stalls and Basheer works in a small restaurant. Another accused Shafiq's father Ibrahim had worked in Praveen's shop for three months. Shafiq knew Praveen very well. ADGP (Law and Order) Alok Kumar said the three arrested are the main accused in the case and are first-time offenders. P4

Will work two more hours every day: CM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Thursday termed the reports of leadership change in Karnataka as "baseless and false". Breaking his silence after speculation started doing the rounds since four days, the CM said instead of discussing such issues, he will dedicate two more hours every day to take up pro-people programmes as well as to strengthen the party.

Speaking to reporters before leaving for Mysuru on Thursday, Bommai said his government is stable and will continue to remain stronger.

On Thursday, Bommai stepped out of his RT Nagar residence in Bengaluru after isolating himself for five days after testing positive for Covid last week.

The CM said he will now work harder for the state and people in Karnataka. "In the coming days, I will go to people and also work to strengthen the party base in Karnataka" he said. P4

TRAGIC END

'Inspired' by movie, youth immolates self

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Tumakuru

IN a shocking incident, a youth died after immolating himself in the belief that he would get "salvation" as shown in the Telugu horror fantasy movie 'Arundhati', at Giddaaiahnapalya village in Madhugiri taluk on Thursday.

The deceased Renukaprasad, 23, doused himself with petrol and set himself afire on the outskirts of the village on Wednesday evening. Some passersby with the help of a few Kannada activists shifted him to a hospital from where he was referred to Victoria Hospital in Bengaluru. He succumbed to the 60 per cent burns he had suffered, at the hospital on Thursday.

Renukaprasad was a topper at the government school in Puravara village in SSLC exams, following which his family members moved him to Tumakuru for higher studies. After clearing first year PUC, he dropped out due to his addiction to watching movies. He watched 'Arundhati' many times, in which the protagonist dies by her will and is reborn to take revenge on the enemy. P7

(From L) Subedar Rajendra Prasad and 3 Riflemen Manoj Kumar, D Lakshmanan, Nishant Malik

SUICIDE ATTACK

4 SOLDIERS MARTYRED

Two heavily-armed fidayeen were gunned down when they tried to storm an army camp in Rajouri, Jammu and Kashmir, on Thursday | P10

NATIONWIDE	AUG 10	AUG 11
Fresh cases	16,047	15,299
Recoveries	19,539	19,431
Deaths	54	53
KARNATAKA	AUG 10	AUG 11
Fresh cases	1,680	1,691
Recoveries	2,114	1,982
Deaths	5	6

JAB-O-METER

TAKE YOUR SHOT

Aug 10: 21,80,642 doses

Aug 11: 14,02,341 doses

TOTAL DOSES: 2,02,43,11,199

Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

NAVA KARNATAKA FOR NAVA BHARAT

Why Tricolour..?

The country's elders gave the nation the Tricolour consisting of saffron, white and green. It symbolized the fight against the British and created waves of patriotism and independence in the Indian subcontinent. Lakhs of freedom fighters were oppressed and sent to prison for holding it. These brave patriots started the Flag Satyagraha movement all over the country without caring for their lives. As a result of their sacrifice, India attained freedom on August 15, 1947. Under the same Tricolour, India is celebrating 75 years of independence this year.

Though Ashoka Chakra replaced the earlier Charaka, the Tricolour continued to symbolize the freedom movement. It united the nation and was also the message for taking the country forward. In the later decades, the Tricolour connected the fellow citizens, from Kargil to Kanyakumari, from Kutch to Arakan Mountains, and gave a colourful form to Indianness. It was in the hands of the Indian cricketers when they won the World Cup, on the Grandmaster's Chess game table and on the pedestal at the Olympic Games whenever India won a gold medal, enthralling the Indians. It created the confidence that we are all one and had spread integrity transcending caste, religion, language and region.

On the occasion of the 75 years of India's independence, the opportunity has come to re-pledge our integrity. We must resolve to build the county in the spirit of nationality and patriotism, keep our individual and narrow interests aside and dedicate ourselves to the nation's service. In addition, **our government is committed to celebrating Amrit Mahotsav and awakening the spirit of patriotism throughout the state under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's slogan 'Har Ghar Tiranga'.**

All those born in independent India have devotion and respect for the Tricolour. Everyone has the right to hoist the Tricolour, forgetting the caste-creed differences. Let's get involved in the nation-building activities under the Tricolour, which symbolizes peace-prosperity, and ignore those who are not appreciating its importance. Let's leave the critics to themselves and dedicate ourselves to the good of the country.

Yours,

Basavaraj S. Bommai
Chief Minister

Har Ghar Tiranga
13th - 15th August 2022

As enshrined in our Constitution, - to safeguard public property and to abjure violence is the fundamental duty of every citizen of India.

karnataka information
Department of Information and Public Relations